

## WISCONSIN DNR FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

LAKE: STELLA LAKE

**COUNTY: ONEIDA** 

**YEAR: 2010** 

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Stella Lake, Oneida County in spring of 2010. Six nets were set targeting muskellunge during April 11-17 and a boomshocker targeted bass and panfish surveyed the entire shoreline on April 19, 2010. All gamefish were measured after the first day of netting, and all species were measured during two, 0.5-mile electrofishing stations on April 19. Stella is a soft water drainage lake with a surface area of 404 acres, 4.4 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 22 feet.

Walleye

in 2005 (540) and 2006 (550).

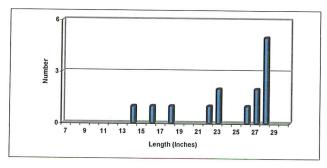


Figure 1. Length frequency distribution of walleye captured during a survey of Stella Lake, Oneida County during April 11-19, 2010.

### Largemouth bass

Largemouth bass were the most abundant gamefish species in our catch, with 53 captured in nets and 158 captured during shocking. Largemouth ranged from 8.0 to 19.4 inches in length.

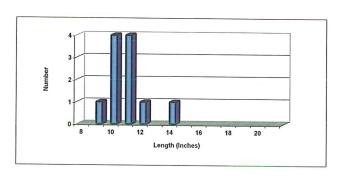


Figure 3. Length frequency distribution of smallmouth bass captured during a survey of Stella Lake, Oneida County during April 11-19, 2010..

#### 60 50 40 20 10 10 12 14 16 18 20 Length (Inches)

We captured 13 walleye netting and 4 shocking. The largest walleye was 28.5 inches in length. Walleye were regularly stocked by DNR through 2003, but were discontinued for lack of performance of small fingerlings. Large fingerlings were stocked by Stella Lake Association

Figure 2. Length frequency distribution of largemouth bass captured during a survey of Stella Lake, Oneida County during April 11-19, 2010.

## **Smallmouth bass**

No smallmouth were captured in nets, but we captured 11 smallmouth bass during electrofishing with lengths ranging from 9.5 to 14.4 inches.

### Northern pike

We captured 66 northern pike, 44 in nets and 22 shocking. Pike ranged from 7.5 to 26.9 inches in length. Pike catch is usually best at cooler temperatures right after ice-out, while surface water temperatures ranged 50 to 58 F during this survey.

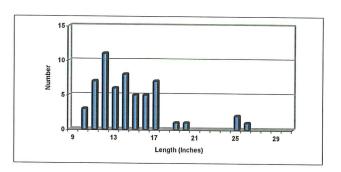


Figure 4. Length frequency distribution of northern pike captured during a survey of Stella Lake, Oneida County during April 11-19, 2010.

#### Muskellunge

All muskellunge were marked by clipping half of the rightventral fin. We captured 10 muskellunge netting and 3 shocking, but 2 of the fish were recaptures of fish previously marked. The largest fish was a 49.2 inch female. The low catch and large size indicates minimal natural reproduction after the last stocking in 1999.

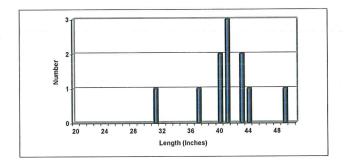


Figure 5. Length frequency distribution of muskellunge captured during a survey of Stella Lake, Oneida County during April 11-19, 2010.

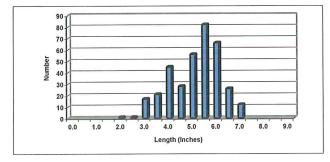


Figure 6. Length frequency distribution of 355 bluegill captured during a survey of Stella Lake, Oneida County on April 19, 2010.

### Black Crappie

We captured 794 black crappie netting and 101 shocking, ranging from 5.0 to 9.5 inches. Peak abundance was at 7.0 inches.

#### Bluegill

Panfish and nongame fishes were not measured in the nets but were collected and measured during shocking along two half-mile reaches of shoreline. We captured 301 bluegill netting and 355 shocking, with very good numbers of fish over 5.0 inches and as large as 7.4 inches in length.

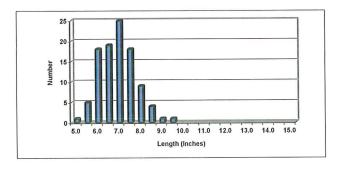


Figure 6. Length frequency distribution of 101 black crappie captured during a survey of Stella Lake, Oneida County on April 19, 2010.

# **Other Species**

We captured 17 species of fish in Stella Lake. In addition to the species listed above, we caught 22 pumpkinseed, 48 rock bass, 62 yellow bullhead, 28 yellow perch and 154 bluegill x pumpkinseed hybrids. Non-game species include 4 white sucker, 5 golden shiner, 1 bluntnose minnow, 1 mottled sculpin, and 1 lowa darter.

John Kubisiak, Fisheries Biologist Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 107 Sutliff Avenue Rhinelander, WI 54501 (715) 365-8919

Email: JohnF1.Kubisiak@wisconsin.gov